PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Appln. No. 10/053,750

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments prior to examination.

No new matter has been entered. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.607(c), Applicant identifies that claims 10 and 11 are copied from U.S. Patent no. 6,236,887 (corresponding to claims 18 and 19, respectively). In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.607(c), Applicant identifies that claims 12-57 are copied from U.S. Patent no. 6,233,484 (corresponding to claims 1, 2, 4-13, 15-30, 32-38, 40-44, 46-50, and 52, respectively). A Request Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.607(a) will be filed in this application in due course.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-1579.

Respectfully submitted,

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Req. No. 37,512

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